

# **NORTH WEST ESSEX AND EAST HERTS PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (NWEHHPA)**

## **Minutes of the NWEHHPA AGM held 26<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in Broxted Village Hall**

**Present:** Peter Sanders (Chairman), Brian Ross, Irene Jones, Sarah Cousins, John Pryor, Ray Woodcock, Freda Townsend, Alan Townsend, Janice McDonald, Ken McDonald, Tricia Barber, Mark W W Howard, Mel Sullivan, Maggie Sutton, Phyllis Clark, Roger Clark.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Peter Riding, Jangu Banatvala, Martin Peachey, Colin Barber, Denise Williams, Richard Cheetham.

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising not on the agenda**

The minutes of the previous AGM of July 2012 were approved as an accurate record. There were no matters arising.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

Peter Sanders started his report by welcoming everyone to the meeting and thanking everyone for their continued support. He explained that he would be presenting his report as Chairman of both NWEHHPA and SSE.

Peter Sanders reported that SSE is busy preparing and delivering submissions to the Airports Commission headed by Sir Howard Davies. The Commission has been asked to identify and recommend to government options for maintaining the UK's status as a global aviation hub. It has to produce its interim report by the end of 2013. If it decides that further capacity is required it will produce a final report by the summer of 2015.

SSE sees two dangers for Stansted: If the Commission decides that London can sustain more than one hub then Stansted may be recommended alongside Heathrow. Or if the Commission decides that there should only be one hub and that Heathrow is not a viable option, then Stansted could become the favoured option for a 4-runway airport.

SSE's position is that no extra runways are needed and should the Commission decide that the need is there then SSE says there should be no new runways at Stansted and has supplied evidence to the Commission to back up these statements. SSE's priority is to argue against the unsustainable expansion of Stansted Airport.

The position of the new owner, Manchester Airport Group, is that they bought the airport as a one runway airport with the intention of restoring Stansted to its 2007 traffic peak within ten years, returning it to 24mppa by 2022. MAG says it has no plans to add extra runways but will wait to hear what the Commission recommends.

To date SSE have submitted responses to four discussion papers:

- Aviation Demand Forecasting
- The criteria to be used in assessing different options
- Aviation Connectivity and the Economy
- Aviation and Climate Change

(These can all be viewed on the SSE website)

The fifth discussion paper – Airport Operational Models – is being prepared currently.

SSE's campaign strategy is to engage fully with the Airports Commission, arguing our case behind the scenes at every opportunity whilst trying to avoid creating unnecessary concern and anxiety in the community.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts

Before the presentation of the Accounts, Peter Sanders thanked Treasurer Denise Williams for doing such an efficient job despite her living in Northumberland! She was unable to be at the meeting.

Brian Ross presented the accounts using notes prepared by Richard Cheetham who was also unable to attend. It was pointed out that Income had fallen slightly due to fewer fundraising activities having taken place. Expenditure had fallen quite dramatically due mainly to not currently having a full time Campaign Director. It was pleasing to note that monthly renewals were holding up and that the accounts are in a healthy position. (Copy of accounts attached). There was, however, the possibility that we may need to go to court to fight the threat of one or more extra runways so to have a healthy "war chest" was a good position to be in.

Brian thanked Denise Williams for her work as Treasurer in conjunction with Sarah Cousins who fed the financial data to her via the Campaign Office. He also thanked Richard Cheetham and also John Summers who audits our accounts. Brian asked if the meeting would be happy for us to use John again next year. This was approved.

Mel Sullivan (Hatfield Heath) asked why the donations from Parishes appeared low. It was clarified that SSE still receives some generous donations from Parish Councils but that all Parish Councils have to make their precepts go a lot further these days. Although Parish Councils were not presently being pressed by SSE for donations SSE would again start canvassing for financial support from Parish Councils should the need arise. Indeed it was agreed that many Parish Councils are watching to see how the situation progresses.

Ken McDonald proposed acceptance of the Accounts for the year ended September 2012. Alan Townsend seconded the motion.

#### 5. Election of Officers and the Executive Committee

Irene Jones confirmed that Peter Sanders would be willing to stand again as **Chairman**. This was proposed by John Pryor and seconded by Tricia Barber.

Peter Sanders confirmed that Irene Jones would be willing to stand again as **vice-Chair**. This was proposed by Roger Clark and seconded by Janice McDonald.

Peter Sanders confirmed that Denise Williams would be willing to stand again as **Treasurer**. This was proposed by John Pryor and seconded by Alan Townsend.

Peter Sanders confirmed that the role of **Secretary** was vacant. Sarah Cousins volunteered to fill this role. This was proposed by Janice McDonald and seconded by Roger Clark.

Peter Sanders reported that Peter Riding would not be standing as a Committee member this year. He suggested that the other members be re-elected en bloc. This was proposed by Janice McDonald and seconded by Alan Townsend. **Committee members** therefore are Jangu Banatvala, Martin Peachey, John Pryor, Maggie Sutton, Brian Ross and Ray Woodcock.

#### 6. Any other business

Irene Jones reported that a number of Tilty residents had approached her with their concerns over the housing development in Little Easton. Irene had explained to them that neither NWEHPA nor SSE can be seen to either support or oppose housing development and asked whether this was still the case. Peter Sanders reiterated that this was so.

Ray Woodcock asked for clarification of Uttlesford District Council's stance on off-site airport parking. Peter Sanders reiterated that neither UDC nor East Herts District Council will grant

planning permission to any airport related parking if it is outside the perimeter of the airport. Therefore those facilities that are allegedly carrying out a commercial parking business are doing so without planning consent. Alan Townsend reported that one such long-standing venture in the Hallingburys has just been served notice to close down by UDC but that it had taken an awfully long time to get to that stage. Mark Howard suggested that Stansted Airport shouldn't have this monopoly on parking as it also encouraged people to park inappropriately outside of the airport, making it difficult for residents and the Emergency Services. Brian Ross said that if the airport's parking monopoly was taken away, Stansted Airport would be a lot less profitable.

Mel Sullivan raised the fact that Essex County Council are proposing to make a Junction 7A along the M11 at Harlow. Mr Sullivan suggested that in the long term this could prove to be to the Airport's benefit and that we should keep an eye on proceedings. He was also fearful of the mineral extraction site at Roxwell as this would have direct consequences to the road network.

Roger Clark asked who the point of contact would be at the airport for people interested in buying property or land currently under ownership of the Airport. Maggie Sutton suggested that this would still be James Hatfield. Brian Ross suggested that he didn't think the HOSS houses would be sold back just yet but that the HVGS houses may be. He reiterated that this subject can be raised at the quarterly STACC meetings and that it would be beneficial for members of the public to attend to put forward such questions. The next STACC meeting is Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 2pm at Enterprise House where the parking is free of charge.

## **7. Conclusion of the meeting**

Peter Sanders closed the meeting at 8:55pm, concluding that the date and the venue of the 2014 AGM would be advised at a later date.